

De  
Profundis  
Ad  
Astra

## DE PROFUNDIS 343



### colophon

*De Profundis* 343– July, 2001. Editor: **Marty Cantor**. Production Assistants: **Bob Null** and **Phil Castor a**. Mailing List: **Liz Mortensen**. Mailing Labels: **Fuzzy Pink Niven**.

*De Profundis* is the official newsletter of the Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society (11513 Burbank Blvd., North Hollywood, CA 91601, USA). Our telephone number is: (818) 760-9234. Our web site is: [www.lasfs.org](http://www.lasfs.org). *De Profundis* is available to active LASFS members, Patron Friends of the LASFS, voluntary active LASFS members, and in exchange for other fanzines. VAMs are available for \$10 per year, payable to LASFS, Inc.

Westercon is a service mark of the Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society, Incorporated (LASFS, Inc.), Worldcon and NASFIC are service marks of the World Science Fiction Society (WSFS).

We want any news of interest to LASFS members (no poetry or fiction). Send items to the LASFS address *c/o De Profundis* or leave them in the *De Profundis* mailbox at the clubhouse. The editor, Marty Cantor, can be reached at the clubhouse on Thursday evenings or at his address: [louishooah@netzero.net](mailto:louishooah@netzero.net). Deadlines are a bit fluid, but mid-month Thursdays are probably it.

Address corrections should be given or sent to the LASFS Treasurer at the clubhouse.

Due to the press of other material there is currently no space available in *De Profundis* for advertising. I will always try to find room to announce upcoming events of interest to members.

Due to space limitations, priority is always given to content mandated in the LASFS by-laws and by any applicable traditions. Also, after that stuff, by what the editor wants to do.

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Statements herein are those of the speaker/writer and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the club.

This is Hoo Hah Publication No. 603.

## TIME MEDDLERS

The Time Meddlers, an affiliate of LASFS, was formed by aficionados of the British TV series, *Dr. Who*. Appropriately enough, the group took its name from a *Dr. Who* story. The group's focus has broadened to include other series, including *Babylon 5*, *Red Dwarf*, and *Buffy*, but the emphasis is still on *Dr. Who*.

The monthly meetings, which are open to all LASFS members, are at the clubhouse every 3rd Sunday. They begin at 11:00, immediately after the meeting of the Council, the Meddlers' Board of Directors. Videos, usually episodes of favorite TV series, are shown before and after the short business meeting. There may be panels to discuss topics of interest or other programming. Meetings last until at least 5:00.

### LASFS OFFICERS

#### Elected Procedural Officers

**President:** Ed Green. **Vice-President:** Merlin R. "Bob" Null. **Scribe:** Mike Glyer & Karl Lembke (tag team). **Treasurer:** Liz Mortensen. **Registrar:** Lynx & Mona Lisa Martinez (tag team).

#### Board of Directors

**Chairman:** Bill Ellern (2002). **Vice-Chairman:** Karl Lembke (2003). **Comptroller:** Mike Glyer (2002). **Secretary:** Mike Glyer (2002). **Other members:** Michael Mason (2003), Merlin R. "Bob" Null (2003), Mike Stern (2003), Joe Zeff (2002), Elayne Pelz (2002), Liz Mortensen (2001), Mike Thorsen (2001), Kim Marks Brown (2001). **Special Advisor:** Charles Lee Jackson II. **Advisors:** Forrest J. Ackerman, Walt Daugherty, Len & June Moffatt, and Fred Patten.

#### Official Committees

**De Profundis Editor:** Marty Cantor. **Librarian:** Michael Mason. **Librarian Emeritus:** Leigh Strother Vien. **Assistant Librarians:** Greg Barrett, Lucy Stern, Alison Stern, Joyce Sperling, Lynn Baden, Eric Stokien, Rosalinda Duran-M<sup>c</sup>Killip & Tadao Tomomatsu. **Special Guest Librarian:** Charles Lee Jackson II. **LASFS Answer Guy:** Greg Barrett. **LASFS/APA-L Liaison:** Tim Merigan. **Committee to Gouge Money from the LASFS:** Tadao Tomomatsu, C.B. McGuire, Dale Hales. **\*\*Legion of Substitute Gouges:** Bruce Pelz, Sandy Cohen, Ed Green. **\*\*Strategic Reserve Registrar:** Robert Keller. **Eulogist, Public Relations, Records, Shangri L'Affaires Editor, Video Coordinator, Programming Committee, party Rabbi, & Tontine Committee** (take a deep breath here): Charles Lee Jackson II. **Assistant Video Curator:** Alison Stern. **Hall Decoration:** Tadao Tomomatsu. **Silent Auction Coordinator:** Tadao Tomomatsu. **Science Monitor:** Christian McGuire. **Non-Science Monitor:** Mike Stern. **Asian Affairs Desk:** Brett Achorn. **Key Control:** Liz Mortensen, Bob Null. **Janitorial Services:** Greg Bilan, Mike Thorsen. **Special Photographic Collection:** Mike Donahue. **Webmaster** - <lasfs.org>: Karl Lembke. **Sysadmin:** Chaz Baden. **Ministry of Silly Gavels:** Bob Null. **\*\*LASFS Imaging Project:** C.B. McGuire. **Committee for Children's Literature:** Anne Morrel, Editor; Greg Barrett, Facilitator. **Computers & LASFS Archives:** Bob Null, Eylat Poliner. **Charity Coordinator:** Liz Mortensen.

#### Honorary Officers

**Sergeant-at-Arms:** Roy Tackett. **Windmill-at-Arms:** Kees van Toorn. **Samurai-at-Arms:** Takumi Shibano. **Librarian-at-Arms:** Heather Stern.

Photos of many LASFSians can be found at: <http://www.boston-baden.com/hazel/Pix/xref.htm>

# August 2001

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2 LASFS MEETING	3 Open Gam- ing—Magic Tournament	4 ESTROGEN ZONE
5 TRIPE	6	7	8	9 LASFS MEETING	10 Open Gaming	11 Cinema Anime
12 BOD - 2nd Sun. Open House	13	14	15 FUCC	16 LASFS MEETING	17 Open Gaming	18 CFO
19 TIME MEDDLERS	20	21	22	23 LASFS MEETING	24 Open Gaming	25 A. Rothstein B'day Party
26 FWEMS	27	28	29	30 LASFS MEETING	31 Open Gaming	

## KEY TO CALENDAR & OTHER IMPEDIMENTA

ESTROGEN ZONE = Ladies Auxiliary Sewing and Fallout Society  
 TRIPE = Temporal Retrieval of Information Programming and Entertainment.  
 BOD = Board of Directors  
 2nd Sunday = Board and other gaming  
 Cinema Anime = Japanimation  
 CFO = Cartoon Fantasy Organisation  
 Work Party = Varies with what needs doing  
 FWEMS = Fourth Sunday Movies - 2 pm  
 FUCC = Fandom Universal Computer Club  
 TIME MEDDLERS = Dr. Who club

## CALENDAR DETAILS

TRIPE - Noon until whenever  
 BOD - 11:00 am, games start at 2:00 pm  
 Cinema Anime - 1:00 pm until it ends  
 CFO - 1 pm to 8 pm  
 Work Party - 10:30 am  
 FUCC - Evening  
 TIME MEDDLERS - 10:30 am  
 ESTROGEN ZONE - 2:00 pm  
 FWEMS - Planets Against Us - '50s SF  
 Allan Rothstein's Birthday Party - mid-afternoon

## THURSDAY PROGRAMME ITEMS

**AUGUST 2-** Tom Safer's Bugs Bunny Show  
**AUGUST 9-** Not scheduled at this time  
**AUGUST 16 -** Not scheduled at this time  
**AUGUST 23-** Not scheduled at this time  
**AUGUST 30 -** Not scheduled at this time

## CONDENSED CREAM OF MENACE

(complete minutes can be read in APA-L and are filed in the archives)

*Meeting #3330, June 7, 2001*

*Cathy Beckstead, presiding*

*Karl Lemke, emergency back-up scribe*

"You're not Mike," said President Beckstead. "No, this is mike," replied Karl, holding up the sound amplifying device, miraculously working before the start of the meeting. That mike had the virtue of being in town that week. Meeting number 3330 was called to order at 20:14:01, with a rap of the gavel and a quack from the gallery.

**Menace:** The Menace from last week were not available, so the Emergency Back-up Scribe read the Menace from meeting #1360,

dated September 5, 1963. Since Len Moffatt couldn't remember the correction he wanted to offer, it was moved that these Menace be approved as "indistinguishable from last week's real Menace."

**Registrar:** The Registrar announced a pair of guests: Dr. Ron Porter, whose profession is betrayed by his penmanship. (or was it his pen-cilmanship?) He is an artist, though he declined to circle the item on his guest card. (Probably too hard to make that illegible.) Brandon Hancock declares his interest to be "inspiration for art and invention." A third guest was urged to introduce himself - John Hudgins, who works the W.B. He did some of the animation for the "crimson Skies" video game, and some cool music videos for JMS.

**Ongoing Business:** Nominations for President were opened for the week. Individuals whose anti-psychotic medications had quit working were:

Ed Green  
Michael Molisani  
Matthew Tepper  
Scott Beckstead  
Karl Lembke  
Joe Zeff

Nominations will re-open next week (or this week if you're listening to the Scribe read these) for further entries, and any of the already nominated who have come to their senses reconsidered may withdraw their names at this time.

**Reviews:** Francis Hamit reviewed *Perdido Street Station*. The writing is very well done. The problem is, you can see exactly where the writing is wonderful, because all the seams show. And the characters aren't very appealing. Marty Cantor stated that if like Jack Vance, read one of his books instead you'll consider this book 150th-rate Jack Vance. (*I do not believe that I gave the book such a positive review - ed.*) Matthew Tepper thought highly of the exhibit Ray Bradbury had at the 1964-1965 Worlds Fair.

**Patron Saint Jim Glass** was given three cheers. (*Jim was a previous LASFS Librarian - ed.*)

**Miscellaneous:** Frank Walter announced that he has no further announcements. Joe Zeff's motion to fracture some flickers passed at 21:20:36. Many members left to tarry at Solly's, to indulge in the Solly-tarry vice of mastication.

*Meeting #3331, June 14, 2001*  
*Cathy Beckstead, presiding*  
*Karl Lembke, emergency back-up Scribe*

"It's election night. I'm not running!" The meeting was called into some semblance of order at 20:19:52, with the use of a minimally silly gavel. Since, on this election night, no one had elected to die, there were no special orders of business.

**Menace:** The Menace from meeting 3329 were read, and corrections were offered. Francis Hamit had stated that the Pets.com sock puppet was "brilliantly **irrelevant**." Fred Patten emphasized the Disney Party Line, that Mickey Mouse is not a person in a mouse suit, but a real person. These Menace were approved as "mystery

minutes." A motion to postpone the reading of the Menace for meeting #3330 was entered, and subsequently withdrawn. These were read and approved as "masticated."

**Patron Saint:** Saint Sandy Cohen, the "nice goy" was given three cheers through mouthfuls of chocolate. He was also awarded a lifetime pass to the state of Pennsylvania.

**Elections:** This is it. Nominations for President were opened, and one name was added to the list. Congratulations to Matthew Tepper! And to Joe Zeff, Sundance Bekinnie, Mike Molisani, Scott Beckstead, and to Karl Lembke! Condolences to Ed Green, who now gets to ride herd over the meetings as President!

The railroad engine pulled Bob Null into his accustomed spot as Veep, and the caboose carried Liz Mortensen into the office of Treasurer.

The office of Scribe this semester will be held by the tag team of Mike Glycer and Karl Lembke, not necessarily in that order. The winners were offered a cheer "so loud Glycer can hear it wherever he is, and loud enough to deafen Karl so he can't finish taking the minutes."

(Minutes end here.)

(Just kidding!)

The Registrar is a tag team of Mona and Lynx.

The hour being very late, the meeting elected to come to a screeching halt, at 10:28:14.

*Meeting #3332, June 21, 2001*  
*Cathy Beckstead, presiding*  
*Mike Glycer, the Once and Future Secretary*

When members vocally disrespected our heroine's attempts to start the meeting, Charlie Jackson 2 cried out in her defense: "She didn't go to acting school for 20 years to learn how to run LASFS meetings in a trench!" That even surprised President Cathy Beckstead, who asked, "I went to acting school for 20 years?" Glycer assured her, "Yes - the last 14 in the sixth grade." So Rob Cole's usual bid to adjourn the meeting the moment it began undoubtedly had more appeal that it ever had before. Cathy bravely continued, although within arm's reach was something that could have instantly ended the pain - Bob Null's latest gavel creation. It consisted of a simply elegant T-shaped handle flanked by a pair of bobbing wheels. Rather Digbyesque, if you remember Tom's antennae. Or in case that gavel wasn't potent enough to kill off tonight's meeting, Bob immediately substituted another edition - "official lame duck" gavel, with a beak whose banana-shape made it look like a pair of Groucho glasses. Cathy was inspired by the lame duck gavel to announce she has a procedure for pardons. Glycer offered one cent to pardon George Senda. Banter continued until Charlie Jackson 2 reminded us about the "new Reagan typewriter" that "has no memory and no colon."

**Special Order of Business:** The club noted the passing that after-

**MAGIC**  
**The Gathering**  
\*\*\*\*\*

**Tournaments  
held at LASFS  
First Friday  
every month**  
\*\*\*\*\*

Contact for Magic The  
Gathering:  
Drew Sanders,  
mailto:  
Drew\_Sanders@hotmail.  
com

noon of actor Carroll O'Connor, best known for playing Jerry Pournelle on television.

**Minutes:** Glycer read Karl Lembke's minutes. There were no substantive corrections, but Charlie wished Karl had connected a reference to "rolling brownouts" with the condition Marty Cantor has suffered for the past several weeks. Mike Stern asked to have the minutes approved as "EuroDisney fits their rear," but more votes went for Charlie Jackson's request to have them approved as soundless moving of his mouth. LASFS

awaits the exit poll where voters will tell us whether they were approving Charlie's act or his silence.

**Patron Saint:** The late Ted Johnstone was tonight's Patron Saint. Matthew Tepper said Ted was a very interesting person. He wrote under his real name of David McDaniel, and did his socializing under the name Ted Johnstone. McDaniel wrote several *Man from U.N.C.L.E.* novels. He was an avid motorcyclist. He died years ago in a home accident. Charlie said Ted was a busy fan with fingers in a lot of pies. He served several terms as LASFS scribe. Charlie and Ted worked together on films and novels, including a Trek novel that saw print in Charlie's own *Amazing Adventures*, sufficiently changed to keep him from being sued by Paramount. Ed Green said that, thanks to David - if that's the right word - there are thousands of U.N.C.L.E. fans who recognize the names of LASFSians used in the novels. David also introduced Ed to a substance that is not to be minuted. (*Or put into DE PROF - oops! - ed.*) Len Moffatt added that Ted was a great guy, then we gave the traditional three cheers.

**Registrar:** Lynx rocked gently in the breeze as he introduced guests, most of whom were actually in the room and hadn't already joined the LASFS, two factors that usually account for there being none present for this part of the meeting. Some of tonight's guests learned about the club at the Festival of Books. There was also Lyn McConchie from New Zealand.

**Reviews:** Ed Green described *Evolution* as "Ghostbusters 3 meets the X-Files." Darcee said her own reaction was, "This is the stupidest movie I've ever seen." Charlie guaranteed he had any number of videos in the club cabinet that could break her record.

**Miscellaneous:** Mike Stern recommended some books inspired by Doc Savage. Frank Waller declared his 44th birthday was the following Saturday. Matthew Tepper moved "to Marty Cantor," a terrifying thought that jolted fans into voting for Mike Stern's more modest motion to seque to the program. We adjourned with a quack.

*Meeting #3333, June 28, 2001*

**David Gerrold, President Emeritus**  
**Mike Glycer, the Once and Future Secretary**

Tonight was the purloined letter meeting of LASFS. David Gerrold manifested in the meeting room, sitting in Rob Cole's favorite seat before Rob arrived. But soon after Cathy Beckstead started the meeting, Charlie Jackson 2 revealed that David was tonight's secret surprise. Yes, David Gerrold was returning as president of LASFS for one night, after a 31-year interruption. Gerrold did the math for those who wondered when that might happen again: "We will expect to see you back in the year 2032."

Then Gerrold produced a little list and demanded to know where Drew Sanders and Sandy Cohen were. Neither was in the room. President Gerrold had fined each of them a dollar in 1969, and neither ever paid. Now he pulled out a three-page amortization scheduling showing the fines plus accumulated interest amounted to \$17.08 apiece. If the fines went unpaid, by 2084 Cohen and Sanders would each owe \$26,643.71. Glycer said, "With any luck, we'll be suing their estates."

Gerrold ruled that although Lee Gold had paid Cohen's fine at the time, that wasn't good enough. Drew Sanders had been fined for complaining that the gavel was too loud, and obviously needed rubber tips.

Looking around the room, Gerrold warned that he was imposing a \$1 fine on every frivolous motion. Mike Stern, Ed Green, and Tadao Tomomatsu rushed to the front and prepaid their fines, avoiding the steep interest charges.

**Minutes:** Glycer read the minutes - no interest there. Joe Zeff moved that the minutes be accepted as semicolon. "With no memory," added Mike Stern. Tadao said, "I'll buy that for a dollar." Gerrold declared the motion passed.

**Patron Saint:** Gerrold led three cheers for Patron Saint Alan Frisbie, whom he called one of the most talented electronics people he knew. A talent that had earned him two years as a guest of the Federal Government.

Ed Green, as president, ran a meeting where Frisbie was making a lot of noise so Ed asked him to leave. It happened to be Frisbie's Patron Saint night. Now Alan holds the record as the only Saint ever ejected from LASFS on his meeting night.

Fred Patten told about visiting Alan's house and hearing a small sneeze - emanating from Alan's pet rat, that had free run of his house. Gerrold wondered if the rat was allergic to Fred. Alan got his pet rat in 1982 and wanted it to be the official mascot of the 1984 Worldcon. Rats have about a 2-year life expectancy, and the rat actually lived until the convention, then died there. Tepper explained that Flying Disk is both the name of Frisbie's business, and his "sacred object" (a status earned by giving us lots more money than was needed to make him a Patron Saint). John Hertz said Alan has a machine shop in his house, and is also an amateur banana grower. (*He grows amateur bananas? - ed.*)

Sandy Cohen arrived in the meeting room. Gerrold commanded, "Please extract \$17.08 from Mr. Cohen." Then he changed his mind,

saying, "Let it ride. We can use the money later, when he owes a lot more." Gerrold handed his interest calculations to the Secretary to monitor Mr. Cohen's account.

Gerrold ticked off the recent losses in Hollywood - O'Connor, Cavet, Lemmon. He seemed disappointed to note, "Yet Charlton Heston is still with us. He has a bit part in the new Planet of the Apes movie."

**Business:** Mike Stern ostentatiously reminded the meeting he had paid in advance for the privilege of making a motion, and said he thought we need rubber tips on the chairs. Joe Zeff's turn was next, and he said he'd like to move three cheers for Charlie for all the tribble he went to in arranging this surprise. Gerrold agreed, "After 31 years, nobody knows the tribbles I've seen," and he pulled \$1 from his own pocket and added it to the kitty.

**Auction:** Tonight's collectibles included a Man from U.N.C.L.E. pin - perhaps to keep your men from U.N.C.L.E. from flapping loose. Auctioneer Ed Green said this would be the very last item he would sell because he was departing the Committee to Gouge Money Out of the LASFS, stepping down so others could find out how much money members had in their pockets. Gerrold wondered, "Won't there be holes in those pockets?" Ed answered, "That's between the members and their pockets."

**Registrar:** Lynx had a double-double - two guests, both of them still in the room to be introduced

**Announcements:** Charlie Jackson 2 offered to sell the latest *Amazing Adventures*, a magazine he operates on the theory of "give the people what they want." He held up the cover and said, "You'll observe, I'm headed for a coffin. If it was up to Jerry Pournelle, I wouldn't get out."

Fred Patten admitted that he always seems to be in the middle of something strange, (*which includes being in APA-L - ed.*) which currently includes refereeing the rival claims of Swedish and Malaysian fans to being the first to make funny animal versions of the Romance poets. You know what they say, the biggest fights are over the smallest stakes.

At this point, David Gerrold wondered, "has any president ever ejected an entire LASFS meeting?"

Robert Keller tried to be the Committee for *Battlefield Earth* Fans until David Gerrold rapped the gavel, and told him to sit down and put a dollar in the plate. Keller still got to announce how he had heard that a fan in England held a *Battlefield Earth* convention in England, and someone paid \$700,000 for the right to be fan GoH. (As Pudd'nhead Wilson said about being tarred and feathered, "...If it weren't for the honor of the thing...")

Ed Green has now graduated to having a recurring report called: "I've been thrown out of better places than this." He's become *persona non grata* at the Beverly Hills Ford & Lincoln where he and a sales manager had a loud disagreement about the concept of service. For one thing, Ed felt they should have picked him up at work. Gerrold thought it shounded like the manager's definition of *service* is what a bull does to a cow. Well, admitted Ed, only in the respect that

it involved a lot of screaming. Ed's employer is a good friend of the chairman of the board of Ford, the manager will be signing a letter of apology. Which proves whose ox was gored, after all. Mooving right along . . .

A reference to someone's medical treatment prompted Gerrold to repeat Isaac Asimov's story about reciting something hilarious that kept his doctor laughing so hard he couldn't treat Isaac's medical problem. The doctor told him afterwards, he shouldn't have done it!

**Reviews:** Gerrold had seen *Grail Thieves*, which he called a very disturbing picture with some terrifying theological implications. He said, "I'm glad I won't be here when it's out, so I don't have to listen to you argue about its implications.: Apparently one can take it as a slasher movie, though he feels it's much more disturbing than that. It's Bill Paxon's directorial debut - nobody runs into the scenery or trips over a prop, so it was a successful one.

Charlie Jackson 2 reminded us that last week he'd made disparaging remarks about *Tomb Raider* without seeing it. Now he'd seen it, and had some more disparaging remarks. He said, if you're familiar with astronomy or archeology, you keep going, "Don't do that, geeze!" every time they touch any of the artifacts.

**Miscellaneous:** Chaz Boston Baden publicized Loscon, memberships now \$35. He's also caught up with loading photos on his web site, but seemed to be apologizing for having merely a thousand pictures from LASFS meetings on-line. Chaz watched Gerrold from the corner of his eye, and seemed dissatisfied with the response, telling Gerrold, "Smile!" Gerrold insisted, "I don't smile." Chaz suggested, "Well, do what you do." He did.

Right then, Gerrold had to answer his cell phone. He assured the caller, "No, I'm not doing anything important." He was not joking. In fact, everybody in the room probably agreed with him. At the end of the call, David explained, "That was the Martian child."

Charlie Jackson 2 was going all out to reach the 60-movies-in-a-month total by Sunday. He added, paradoxically, "If I didn't have to take time off to write, I'd watch even more." Well, just cut back on your sleep. Or, learn to write in your sleep - that's got to be easier than what Hubbard does, and look how productive *he* is.

It was time to go play on the freeway, so David called for votes to adjourn. then he asked if any were opposed? Some voted for him to keep going, but David solved that by ordering, "Kill those people!"

#### *LASFS Board of Directors*

*Meeting of May 13, 2001*

*William Ellern, Chairman - Mike Glycer, Secretary*

**Attendance:** William Ellern, Mike Glycer, Karl Lembke, Michael Mason, Bob Null, Liz Mortensen, Joe Zeff, Mike Thorsen, Mike Stern, Elayne Pelz. (Absent: Kim Marks Brown.) Others: M. Cantor, E. Green, G. Barrett, G. Bilan, A. Morrell, J. Sperling, L. Stern, S. Benoun, C. Beckstead, P. Beckstead, S. Bekinnie, B. Pelz.

**Minutes:** Glycer read Karl Lembke's minutes of the April meeting. Under corrections, Marty Cantor said the policy was to send the club

Directory to members and other clubs, and not businesses. Liz said the Fala7con auction made \$1,907.76 - alone, the con also had other income. Ed Green said the project completion date should reflect not only the month but the year. Greg Barrett said the Children's Recommended Reading List was ready to be printed by mid-May. The minutes were approved as corrected.

**Treasurer's Report:** Selected treasury numbers were reported. Century Fund: \$39,363.25; Festival of Books: \$46.64; Library Fund: \$1,155.00; Video Fund: \$124.47; Video R/R Fund: \$527.00. Liz Mortensen reported that Thorsen ordered a vacuum that *does* suck. Thorsen said it has a 1-year warranty, and a 10-year estimated life. He reviewed the rest of our inventory of vacuum cleaners - one of the vacuum cleaners is made of plastic and is expected to go south at any moment. One of the vacs donated by a club member is obsolete (*As might also be that club member. - ed.*) because they don't make filters for it anymore. "Made by Microsoft, I take it?" speculated Joe Zeff. The audit had been completed. Just before the deadline for the next one.

**New Members:** Applications were received from Allison K. Haft and Francis S. Green. Both were approved by voice vote, unopposed.

**Policy on Building Use:** Ellem called for a report by the committee appointed to draft the policy. Joe said Kim told him she'd be there on Friday, though he hadn't seen her. The question under consideration was: what if a minor is here, unaccompanied by parents, and injures him/herself. A minor was recently injured here but the minor's parents were here and took care of it.

**Festival of Books:** Ellem extended the Board's compliments to Greg Bilan. The list of volunteers were in the club meeting minutes (*and De Prof - ed.*). Greg thanked some more people for specific things. Ellem commended Greg Barrett as the committee on Children's Recommended Reading List. He cranked out 500 copies of the list for the Festival, and they all went. Michael Mason said 500 copies of a survey had been distributed. About 70% of those responding asked for information about LASFS. The names were given to Marty Cantor to send sample copies of *De Profundis*.

**Facilities:** Bob Null reported on his interaction with the building inspector, following a neighbor's complaint that got us cited for having a storage container. Bob presented a copy of the prior inspector's report and the new inspector issued another approval. He also took pictures. As for the repainting, Bob said Monstro gets repainted whenever anyone feels like it. Various members winked significantly at one another, as though they knew who had most recently "felt like it."

**Club Machines:** Bob said the Gestetner is being maintained whenever it throws a rubber band. There's also a problem when the "dead masters" are allowed to accumulate. Bob put Windows 98 on one of the computers and it still runs everything. Bob called the phone company about emptying the pay phone coin box.

**Engineering:** Greg Bilan wanted a new mop and plunger. Ellem authorized some one-man hydrostatic booster pumps.

**Directory:** Glycer said he would finish it by Thursday. Marty will run it through the June *De Profundis*. Karl Lembke asked where he should forward changes of addresses sent to the Webmaster. The answer: to the Treasurer.

**De Profundis:** Marty Cantor planned to send *De Profundis* to people who requested it at the Festival of Books. (Is there an echo in here?)

**LASFS.org:** Karl Lembke said the committee hasn't met yet. But he got one recommendation for a hired gun to do the updates. The Cinema Anime site is going to be done by the same person, so Karl will observe how that goes. At Karl's instigation, directors discussed whether to continue the web site's connection with the Amazon.com associates' program. As far as the income, Liz said a \$25 check shows up every couple of years. Joe Zeff said his personal preference would be to discontinue the association. Greg Barrett felt that if we were going to promote book sales, we should promote members of our community, like A&M, DV, Bruce Pelz, instead of a national chain. Glycer noted that we could put up placards for their businesses and still keep Amazon. Mike Stern said the site gets hits from all over the country, so some of them aren't potential customers of the local sellers. Anne Morrell felt the Children's Recommended SF Reading List should not be used to promote particular booksellers. Glycer, seconded by Mason, moved to retain the Amazon associate status on the LASFS.org site. The directors voted 7-1 to approve.

**Library:** Mason said the missing Harry Potter books were found in the back of the stacks room. The library had benefited from books given to volunteers who worked the Nebula Weekend. Mason also got some from Darkstar and a bookstore in San Diego. More boxes of donated books had been processed. He's still on track for June (2001, year added out of deference to Ed).

**Committee to miss Bruce and Elayne:** Ellem commemorated the return of Bruce and Elayne Pelz from their cruise by presenting them with a small present - a stuffed elephant. "It's incredibly soft," he added.

**Archives:** Bob relayed from Charlie Jackson 2 that the Video Library was looking for more space. The DVD's don't fit the standard bookshelf. Mason said there was zero chance of turning over space on the hardback shelf for them. Ed Green asked if Charlie was taking less-used stuff off the shelf. Bob said off-air tapings had been moved to a filing cabinet. Bob had not promulgated any "need lists" yet.

**The Prez:** Ellem thanked the LASFS President for coming. Cathy answered, "No comment."

**LOSCON 29:** Michael Mason said convention planning is continuing on pace. They don't have guests confirmed.

**LALACON:** Michael Mason said the con's last bills had been received. Liz Mortensen said Fala7con took in \$1,114.43, not including the auction. Mason added that the Solalaccon committees being formed.

**Building Use Redux:** Ellem said ConFurence asked permission to hold a committee meeting after the C/FO. The Board voted its approval by voice, unopposed with two abstentions.

## Lafa

(Los Angeles Filkers Anonymous)

Lafa Filksing -  
No Filksing in August

(instead)

ConChord,  
the Southern California  
Filk Convention,  
will be August 10-12  
at the  
Van Nuys Airtel Plaza.

GoH Broceliande  
(with Kristoph Klover & Margaret  
Davis)

Special Guest: Steve Macdonald  
Interfilk Guest: Maureen O'Brien

Lafa info: Barry & Lee Gold:  
(310) 306-7456

**Convention Delegates:**  
None.

**Adult Recommended Reading List:** Michael Mason had updated the list and distributed it at the Festival of Books. Ed Green asked whether either book list has a disclaimer. Anne Morrell said the kids' list says "parental discretion advised."

**New Business:** Joe Zeff said a site on the net, Hitchhikers Guide to the Galaxy, collects essays for reading and comments. He suggested somebody write up something about the LASFS. Eller accepted Greg Bennett's offer to do so. The site's address is [www.h2g.com](http://www.h2g.com).

The Board adjourned.

## FANZINES

By Ted White

Fanzines are a basic part of science fiction fandom, having been in existence as long as fandom itself – the past 70 years. Fanzines are a reflection of many fans' interest in the printed word and amateur publishing. The publication you are reading this in is a fanzine, but a specialized one. A variety of other fanzines are also available – many of them by request – and this column will cover some of them each issue.

All fanzines are published as a hobby and lose money. Their editors appreciate money to defray their expenses and sometimes list single-copy or subscription prices, but they appreciate even more your written response – a Letter of Comment, or LoC. Feedback – better known in fandom as "egoboo" – is what fanzine publishing is all about.

Check out the fanzine below and broaden your participation in fandom.

**WABE** (Jae Leslie Adams, 621 Spruce St., Madison WI 53715; Bill Bodden, P.O.Box 762, Madison WI 53701-0762; Tracy Benton, 108 Grand Canyon Drive, Madison WI

53705; available for trades, contributions, letters of comment – "the usual" – or "editorial whim;" no price given but you could try a begging letter or an email to [jaeleslie@aol.com](mailto:jaeleslie@aol.com), [billzilla@mailbag.com](mailto:billzilla@mailbag.com) or [Benton@uwalumni.com](mailto:Benton@uwalumni.com))

*Wabe* is a fanzine with three editors (all of whom live in Madison, Wisconsin), and a loose, informal approach reminiscent of the fanzines of several decades ago. But despite the warmth and informality, this is a neatly designed and attractively laid-out fanzine (the work of Jae Leslie Adams, a calligrapher whose work adorns the back cover). Its text is produced on a computer, printed out, and the art is pasted in. Then it's electrostenciled and cleanly mimeographed on white paper.

The third issue, the most recent, is dated March. Its cover, by Stu Shiffman, "Three Faneds in Search of a Focus," renders the three editors in cartoon form with some acuity. The 22-page issue presents three editorials (placed at the front, in the middle and at the end) and six articles – all thematically concerned with travel on one level or another.

There's travel in the mundane world – Pat Hario's "Schooner Women" describes a voyage on a 101-foot sailing ship with a crew composed exclusively of women and tells of how the experience changed her life. And there's travel among fans – Jae Leslie Adams' "A Passion for Travel" details her experiences in Britain last November, centering on her stay with John and Eve Harvey in their village home. Maybe because I too have visited with and enjoyed the Harvey's hospitality, I particularly liked that piece. Jae has the ability to describe things well: "I had only just mastered getting into the left side of a vehicle as a passenger, so now simply getting used to being on what still seemed the wrong side of the road, with the faster passing lanes on the right, and so forth, made it an exciting trip for me, and roundabouts were still nerve-rackingly exotic."

Scattered through the issue are six "The 22 Second Fanzine Reviews" – short, solid, one-paragraph reviews of six fanzines by the three editors, which appear boxed as page-enders. A clever idea, nicely done. The issue is finished off with a four-page letter column, the letters divided into topics. The lead topic is the e-zines vs. paper fanzines controversy.

This situation arises from the increasing expense of mailing physical copies of fanzines to a mailing list of 100 to 500 people (the typical fanzine's circulation falls within these numbers). The alternative is to post fanzines by e-mail, or put them up on a website. And there are other choices in format and presentation. Because most of fandom's e-zines are done by fans who *like* paper fanzines – they like holding them, turning the pages, perhaps check-marking an engaging topic for response – they are being produced in a PDF

format which allows the editor to control the appearance and design of the end-product when it is printed out by a recipient (except, of course, for paper color). This situation continues to evolve, but probably points the way toward fanzines' future.

—Ted White

zines received in trade

(All zines are available to read and are in the *De Profundis* mailbox and can be taken out for a week)

**club zines:** INSTANT MESSAGE #686 (NESFA). PSFS News, July 2001 (PSFS). MEMPHEN #272 & #273 (MSFA). PULSAR #273 (PorSFis). WESTWIND #258 (NWSFS). WARP 51 (MonSFFA). DASFAX June 2001 (DASFA). NASFA SHUTTLE June 2001 (NASFA). ConNotations June/July (CASFS). EINBLATT! July 2001 (Minn-StF). SFSFS SHUTTLE #144 April/May (SFSFS). FOSFAX #203 (FOSFA).

**other zines:** CHALLENGER 14 (Guy Lillian III).

## NEW BOOKS

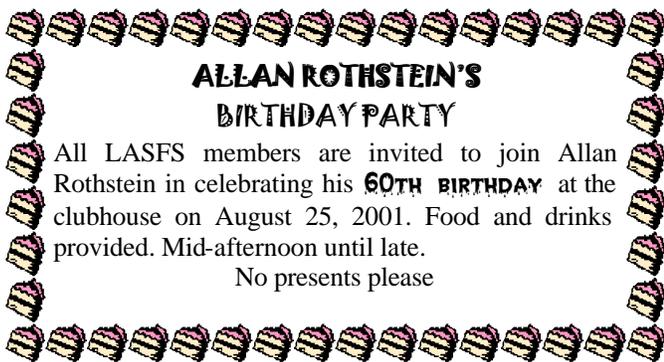
(This is a section devoted to listing new books and other items received by the LASFS Library. Our extensive library is not just for collecting and looking at that wonderful collection of books on shelves. Members may take them out and read them. Here are some of the newest additions.)

### Donated by Anon

**Deadfall** by Gary Russell. **The Stones of Stiga** by Carol Heller. **The Lanterns of God** by Ron Sarti. **Star Trek: First Contact** by J.M. Dillard. **Octoberland** by Adam Lee. **Maze of Worlds** by William Nicholson.

### Donated by Gary Louie

**Vector for Seven** by Josephine Saxton. **Kiteworld** by Keith Roberts. **The Glamour** by Christopher Priest. **Robots: Machines in Man's Image** by Isaac Asimov & Karen A. Frenkel. **Dinosaur Fantastic ed.** by Mike Resnick & Martin H. Greenberg. **The Ultimate Werewolf ed.** by Byron Preiss.



**ALLAN ROTHSTEIN'S  
BIRTHDAY PARTY**

All LASFS members are invited to join Allan Rothstein in celebrating his **60TH BIRTHDAY** at the clubhouse on August 25, 2001. Food and drinks provided. Mid-afternoon until late.  
No presents please

## JACK HARNESS R.I.P.

A report has arrived from Jack Harness' sister that he'd died "quite suddenly and without pain at Kaiser, having been admitted after his built-in defibrillator/pacemaker shocked him due to heart instability".

*Below are some e-mailed messages about Jack Harness*

I never knew Jack Harness well, but he crops up in many of my fannish memories: apazines, visits to DC, Westercons in LA and Oakland. During the Sunday afternoon "Freedom Filk" at Marcon a couple of months ago, one of the singers announced himself as "the world's best Objectivist filk-singer." Without thinking, I asked him where his M'taah Horn was -- and then ran into the impossibility of explaining Objectivist Mutated Mice. I can't recall the last time I saw Jack. Westercons are too huge for us to find old friends in, and even the few Loscons we've been to have been too full of people we don't know at all. But when I hear someone like him is gone, I'm reminded how the upstream end of our Zanzibar is shrinking.

**Karen Anderson**

Jack was The Scribe when I joined the LASFS. He was a friend, though I hadn't seen much of him lately. I wish now I'd done something about that. I still have a parchment he worked up and presented at a fanquet, not long after I published "What Can You Say About Chocolate Covered Manhole Covers?" The parchment says, "The American Dental Association says they are bad for children's teeth."

**Larry Niven**

I'm saddened to hear this news. I met Jack in 1955 at the Cleveland Worldcon, and he was one of the first fans I met at a con who subsequently became a good friend. That fall Jack moved to Washington, D.C. to join the newly formed Church of Scientology -- he'd come for Dianetics and they baited & switched -- where he lived until the spring of 1958, when he moved to L.A. During those couple of years I saw him four or five times a week at "The Wormwood" (The Elmwood), just off Dupont Circle. He, Bob Burleson, Phil Castora and I were all buddies, playing cards and pubbing fanzines right and left. Jack's art was an intrinsic part of the fanzines I published in that era; he did some really Great Stuff which I used in STELLAR (the climax being his water color painting which I "transcribed" for six-color mimeo for the cover of #12)..I had relatively little contact with Jack in recent years, but the warmth of our old friendship was always there. I'm sorry he's gone, but I'm glad there was little or no suffering.

**Ted White** (from the Trufen e-list, a first reaction to the news)

To all who mourn a friend: Jack was the rival I had to lure my bachelor husband away from. I was the woman who got between two roomies. Now both are gone, just over a year apart and both from the same coronary cause. When Owen died, Jack and Phil Castora, from where they were residing in a time warp from the early 60s, gave me a call of support right away. That was just one year and ten days ago. I still remember Jack's

## JACK HARNESS

November 3, 1933 - July 13, 2001

(obituary by Phil Castora)

It was like Jack to die on Friday the thirteenth, a day feared by the superstitious. Not that he had any intention of promoting superstitions - rather, he'd occasionally show his disdain for them.

I'm sure there've been better people than Jack among the billions running around loose on this planet for however long people have been running around loose here, but the margin by which any of them have exceeded him is probably too small to be visible to the naked eye. He was a good person, a good friend, and a good fan.

Jack's fannish activities date back to the early fifties; he belonged to the Pittsburgh Science Fiction Association (as did I), but our meetings were only monthly, and the club did precious little other than a little conversation about that crazy Buck Rogers stuff. (In those days, people who read science fiction got funny looks from others.) But we both attended ChiCon II in 1952.

I don't know how he found out about APAs, but by 1956 he'd joined FAPA and SAPS, and with Ted White had resuscitated the Cult (which had been moribund for eight or ten months), modifying the original rules to make it more workable - and got me into SAPS and the Cult, and I might have joined FAPA if the length of the waiting list had been a little less daunting. He even got Ted into SAPS with a regular column in Jack's zine titled "Why I Won't Join SAPS." I'd have stayed in, too, if my father hadn't died and I hadn't had to leave town for while.

Jack brought a new lightness to the Cult (SAPS, as you can guess from its acronym, didn't suffer from a shortage) with his humor, not only written but with his "Cultoosn", cartoons of members of the APA dressed in hooded robes, which added a bonus of incongruity to his other elements of humor.

A couple of years later, Jack migrated to the legendary land of lunacy and joined the LASFS. He began being elected to the office of secretary from time to time. Among the various pseudonyms Jack invented -- Jxtn Muir, Alhazred ibn Cthulhu, Rosharn -- one of the earliest was "Scribe JH," poking fun at the Rosicrucian ads signed "Scribe such-and-such." Since he frequently served as LASFS Secretary, and also made his excellent calligraphy available for certificates and such that the club wanted to present, the "Scribe" nickname stuck.

Years later, when we incorporated and needed to reserve the title "secretary" for the person so designated by the state Department of Corporations, the person performing such duties at our weekly meetings was given the title "Scribe." Mike Glycer, who's been elected to that office numerous times, refuses to use it, and I can't argue with him - for most of us there's only been one Scribe.

I arrived here and joined the LASFS in 1962. In 1964, APA-L started up, and Jack contributed for several years, adding his inspired madness and often making our other contributions seem insipid by comparison. Particularly hilarious was his fan fiction - fiction about fans rather than just by one. His stories gave new meaning to "silly" and "absurd" - and maybe even to "fiction." I've never seen the like elsewhere.

Jack never learned to drive! This was rarely a problem to him, except for a few years when we met at a building in the Silverlake Playground. Jack, serving as Secretary, lived less than five miles away—but needed to take three buses to get there. He was sometimes late and occasionally never showed up at all. Finally, we impeached him for quasi-feasance and removed him from office; he arrived just in time to hear the final result. We followed this with an election to fill his now vacant office; he was elected in a landslide, a result almost as astounding as the fact that you can get wet standing under a shower. I think that says a great deal about how we appreciated Jack.

It's not possible to point to one accomplishment and say "That's why we liked Jack and will miss him so much." Jack got a number of people into fandom and got a number of people who were already in to be more active. He contributed to several APAs and to the LASFS - and to the parties he attended. He brightened our lives with his humor. And he did it all consistently and constantly. We're greatly saddened by our loss of him, but we can count ourselves extraordinarily fortunate to have had him around as long as we did.

Mehtaah (spelling definitely imprecise) Horn and mutated mouse angel "Marooni" (or something like that: my memory is not too good these days). Jack had many elements of zaniness which made him a unique, a one-of-a-kind. Where ever he is now, may he be able to indulge his unique humor without guilt.

Though I hadn't seen Jack in years, I shall still miss him. **Eclare Hannifen**, Northern California transplanted antiquated LASFSian

**LASFAPA**

**Celebrating our 25<sup>th</sup> year**

**All ex-members of LASFAPA  
are invited to return  
for the festivities**

Disties #300 (September) and #301 (October)  
are the celebratory issues  
where all ex-members are invited,  
dues free,  
to join their old friends.

Contact Marty Cantor, LASFAPA's Little Tin God, for  
details. To enable the setting of the copy count for  
those two disties, the deadline for notifying the LTG is  
August 10, 2001.

Contact  
Marty Cantor  
11825 Gilmore Street #105  
North Hollywood, CA 91606, USA  
telephone (818) 761-9401  
edress: louishoohah@netzero.net

**The Third Annual  
GARY LOUIE MEMORIAL  
MAH-JONGG TOURNAMENT**

will be held the weekend of Saturday, Sept. 29 and Sunday,  
Sept. 30, 2001

See Bruce Pelz (in person or at bep@social.rr.com) for  
rules and to sign up.



*Illo by Rotsler*



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DATED MATERIAL  
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